In the Claims

The following claims 1-21 are currently pending based on the amendment herein:

1. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a recorder, including:

reading means for reading ~~from an information carrier, a medium mark representing~~ a first bitpattern _from a medium mark on an information carrier_;

generating means for generating a second bitpattern according to a predefined relationship to contents of the first bitpattern;

encoder means for embedding a watermark representing the second bitpattern in user information to be recorded; and

recording means for recording the watermarked user information on the information carrier for storage;

the system further comprising:

a player including:

first reading means for reading the ~~medium mark representing the~~ first bitpattern from the _medium mark on the_ information carrier;

second reading means for reading the embedded watermark representing the second bitpattern from the user information;

verifying means for verifying the relationship between the second bit pattern and the first bit pattern; and

enabling means for enabling playback of the recorded watermarked user information from the information carrier based on said verification.

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2. (previously amended) The system of claim 1, in which the relationship includes a cryptographic function.

3. (previously amended) The system of claim 2, in which the relationship includes a one-way function.

4. (previously amended) The system of claim 1, in which the second bitpattern identifies the encoder means.

5. (Currently amended) A recorder comprising:

reading means for reading ~~from an information carrier, a medium mark representing~~ a first bitpattern from a medium mark on an information carrier ;

generating means for generating a second bitpattern according to a predefined relationship to contents of the first bitpattern; and

encoder means for embedding a watermark representing the second bitpattern in user information to be recorded ; and

recording means for recording the watermarked user information the information carrier for storage.

6. (previously amended) The recorder of claim 5, in which:

the recorder further comprises marking means for writing the medium mark on the information carrier; and

the generating means generate the first bitpattern from a seed according to a further predefined relationship.

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7. (previously amended) The recorder of claim 6 , in which the generating means generate the first bitpattern by combining a first part represented by a prepressed mark on a recordable information carrier and a second part generated from the seed.

8. (previously amended) The recorder of claim 6, in which the further predefined relationship includes a cryptographic one-way function.

9. (Currently amended) An information carrier comprising:

~~a medium mark representing~~ a first bitpattern <u>embedded in a medium mark on the information carrier</u>; and

recorded user information encoded with a watermark representing a second bitpattern having a predefined relationship to contents of the first bitpattern whereby the relationship between the second bitpattern and the contents of the first bitpattern can be verified in a computer process.

10. (previously amended) The information carrier of claim 9, in which the first bitpattern includes:

a first part identifying a source of the information carrier; and

a second part identifying the recorded information.

11. (Currently amended) A player comprising:

first reading means for reading ~~a medium mark representing~~ a first bitpattern from <u>a medium mark on</u> an information carrier;

second reading means for reading a embedded watermark representing a second bitpattern

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from recorded user information;

verifying means for verifying a predefined relationship between the second bit pattern and contents of the first bit pattern; and

enabling means for enabling playback of the recorded user information from the information carrier based on said verification.

12. (previously amended) The player of claim 11, in which the verification means includes a cryptographic one-way function.

13. (previously amended) The player of claim 12, in which:

the verification means generate a verification pattern by applying a one-way function to the first bitpattern; and

the verification means compare the verification pattern and the second bitpattern in order to verify the predefined relationship.

14. (previously amended) The system of claim 1, in which:

the relationship includes a one-way function;

the relationship includes a cryptographic function; and

the second bitpattern identifies the encoder means.

15. (previously amended) The recorder of claim 5, in which:

the recorder further comprises means for reading the first bit pattern from the record carrier;

the first bit pattern indicates a copy protection status of the record carrier;

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the relationship includes a cryptographic function;

the relationship includes a one-way function;

the second bitpattern identifies the encoder means;

the recorder further comprises marking means for writing the medium mark on the information carrier;

the generator means generate the first bitpattern from a seed according to a further predefined relationship; and

the generator means are arranged for generating the first bitpattern by combining a first part represented by a prepressed mark on a recordable information carrier and a second part generated from a seed.

16. (previously amended) The information carrier of claim 9, in which:

the relationship includes a cryptographic function;

the relationship includes a one-way function; and

the second bitpattern identifies the encoder means.

17. (previously amended) The player of claim 12, in which:

the relationship includes a cryptographic one-way function;

the relationship includes a one-way function; and

the second bitpattern identifies the encoder means.

18. (previously amended) The system of claim 1 in which the second medium mark is pressed in the information carrier during manufacture.

19. (original) The system of claim 1 in which the watermarked user information is stored on the record carrier in a different manner than the medium mark is stored, the user information writing means being insufficient for writing the medium mark on the record carrier.

20. (previously added) The system of claim 1, wherein said enabling means comprises an enabling switch.

21. (previously added) The system of claim 11, wherein said enabling means comprises an enabling switch.

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